

Comite River Diversion Project Update

Mark Wingate, P.E.
Deputy District Engineer for Programs and
Project Management
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District

25 Aug 16



U.S. ARMY



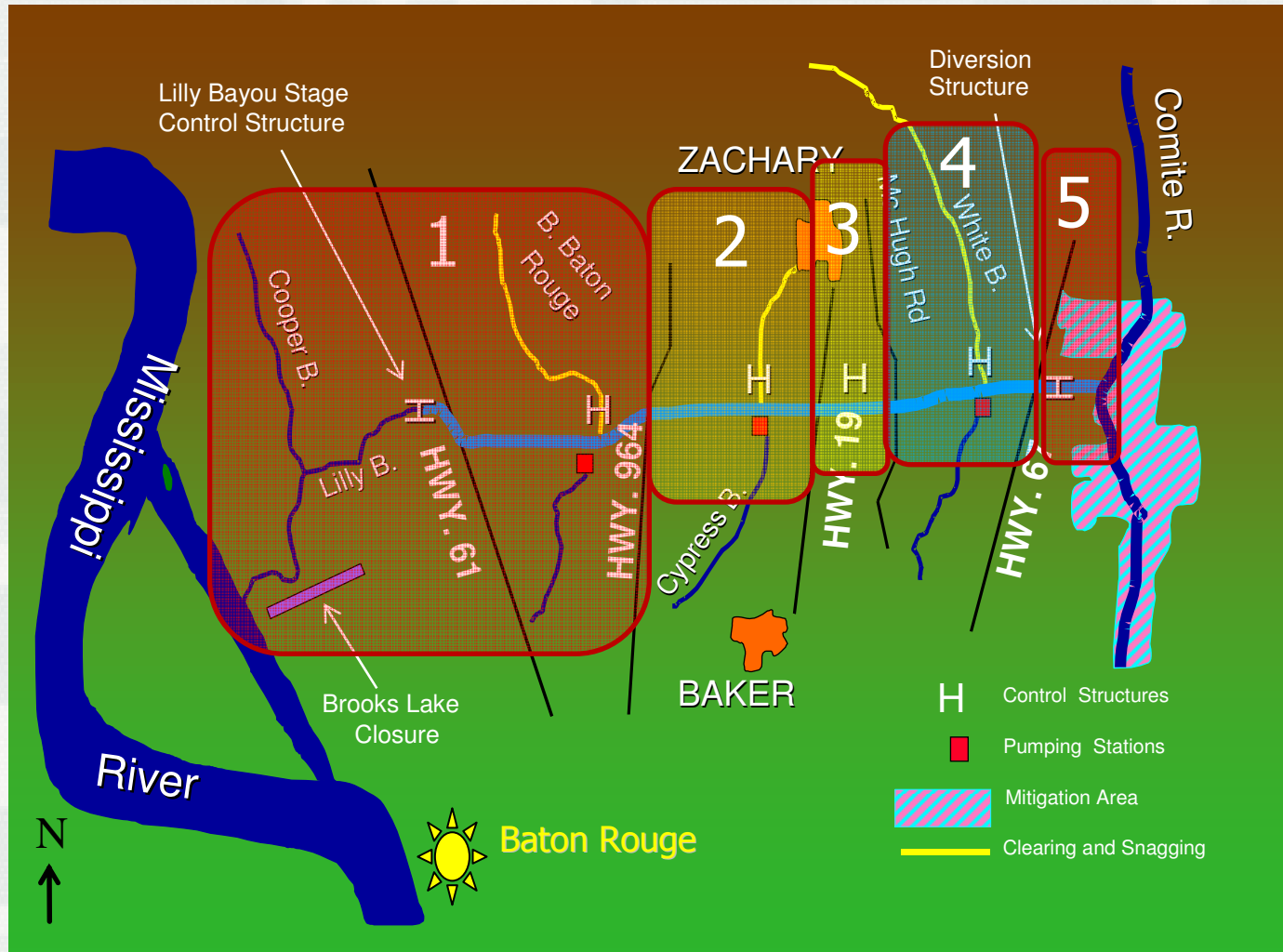
®

US Army Corps of Engineers
BUILDING STRONG®



Comite River Diversion Project

Functional Element Basins



Element 1

Brooks Lake Closure to Highway 964 Bridge

Element 2

Highway 964 to Highway 19 Bridge

Element 3

Highway 19 Bridge to McHugh Rd Bridge

Element 4

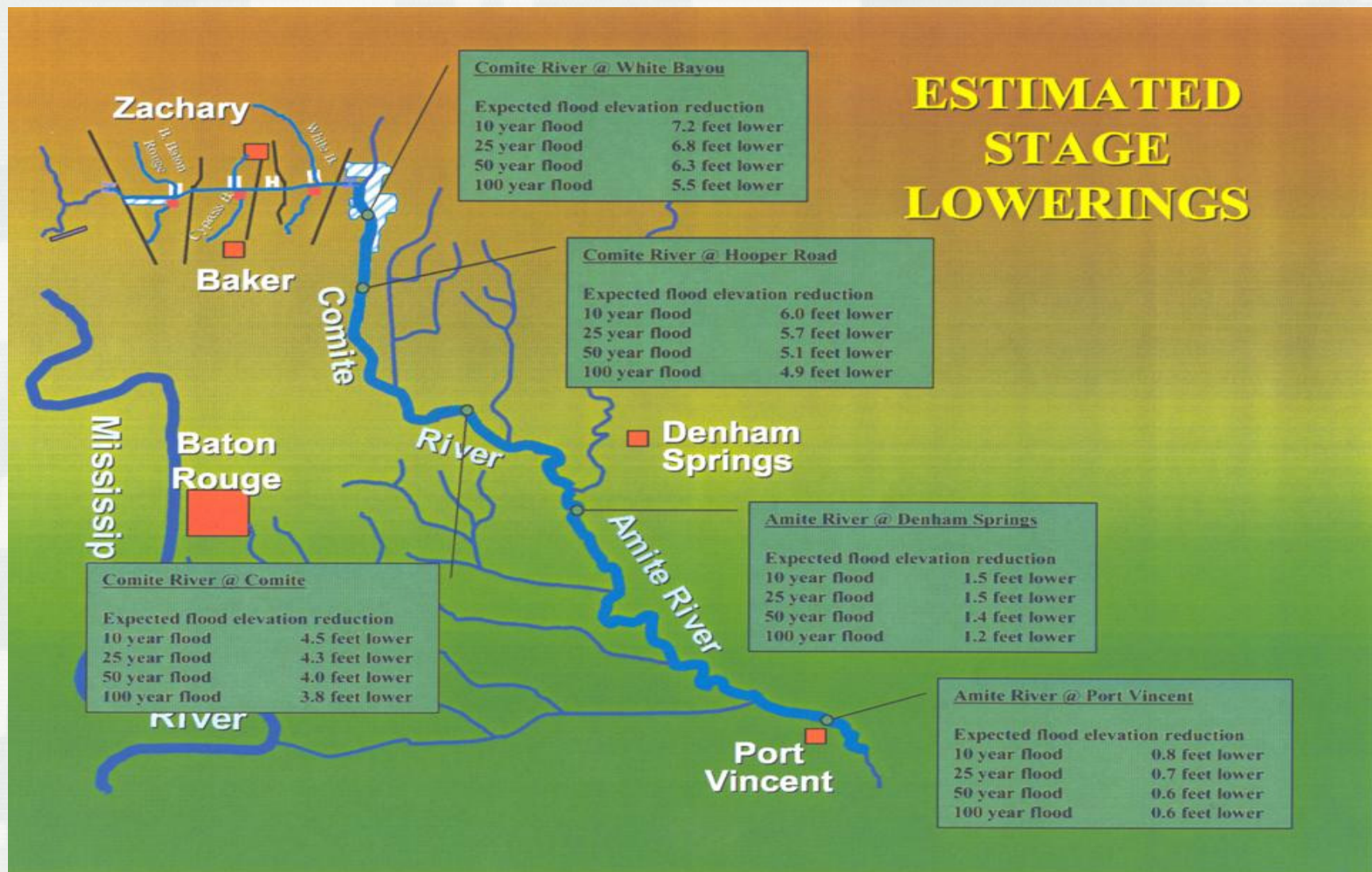
McHugh Rd Bridge to Highway 67 Bridge

Element 5

Highway 67 Bridge to Diversion Structure



Estimated Stage Lowerings - 1991 Feasibility Report



Flood Risk Reduction with Project

- Preliminary qualitative analysis indicates:
 - Project could have benefited 5% to 10% of damaged structures
 - Magnitude of potential stage reductions:
 - North of confluence of Comite and Amite rivers measured in feet
 - South of confluence of Comite and Amite rivers measured in inches
- H&H analysis is being conducted to determine extent of damages that could have been reduced
 - Scheduled to be substantially complete late next week (2 Sep 16)
- 2016 Flood would have exceed capacity of Comite Project
 - Impacted area extends well beyond the Comite Basin
 - Shattered past stage records on the Comite and Amite rivers



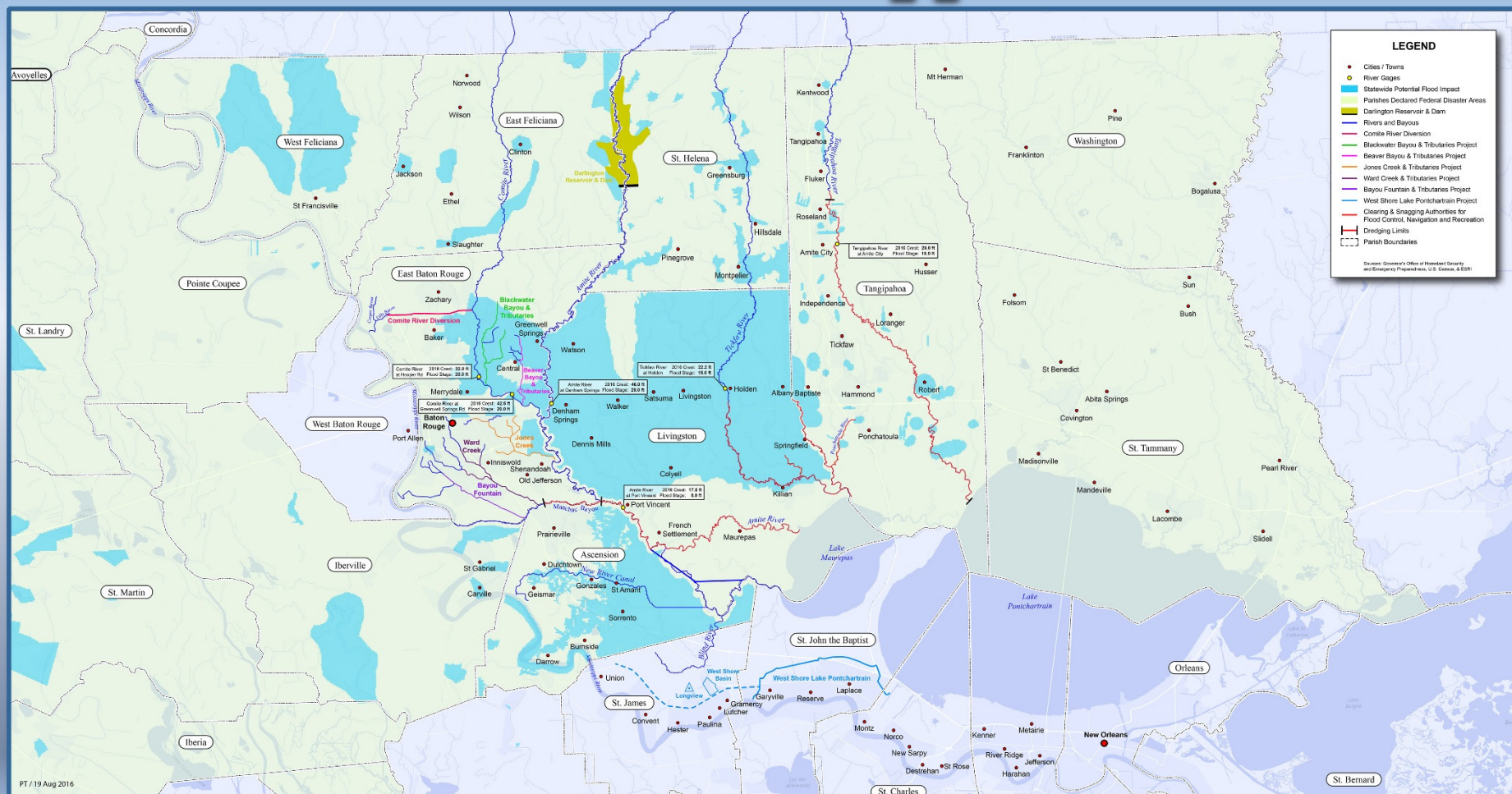
Comprehensive Approach

- System-wide approach needed to mitigate future flood events
 - A comprehensive, multi-parish study
 - Evaluate all available tools at local, state and federal levels
- Comite Project is much needed component of system
- Consider other authorized Federal projects
 - West Shore Lake Pontchartrain
 - East Baton Rouge Flood Control Project
 - Previously considered concepts
 - Darlington Reservoir
 - Bayou Manchac
 - Amite River FRM improvements





Active & Inactive USACE Projects East of Mississippi River



MVN: 2016 August Severe Weather Event

24 August 2016

SITUATION: August Severe Weather Southern LA

CURRENT OPS:

MVN : 8 engaged (4 office, 4 field)- \$90k 210 funding

Direct Assistance:

- Issued 1200 Linear Feet of HESCOs to St. John Parish
- Issued 2 Pumps to Louisiana Office of State Parks
- MVN is ready to support CPRA and DOTD with sandbags, HESCOs, and pumps.

Technical Assistance:

- MVN providing technical assistance for bank failure on the Amite River, near French Settlement. MVN will perform surveys with the Z boat. Will provide a technical solution for the bank failure fix. Surveys are complete and analysis should be complete by COB 24-Aug.
- As of 23 Aug, the IHNC Lock dewatering will continue as scheduled.
- All LGLs have been pulled back and resume normal duty.
- Provided a total of 10 inundation map of St. John and St. James parish to CPRA. More maps will be provided in the next few days
- Provided technical assistance (1 engineer) in the vicinity of Lake Arthur, LA to assess a potential levee failure/overtopping
- Provided technical assistance to the town of Gueydan, LA to assess levee breach and closure operation
- Began working agreement to use Port Allen lock as a staging area for FEMA.
- Received (6) 8 inch pumps from MVR.
- Fielded questions and provided minimal technical assistance on the overtopping road at Alligator Bayou in Ascension Parish.

Other District Missions

- Navigation - Port Allen Lock and Bayou Sorrel Lock remain closed due to high water levels. Port Allen is open to local traffic, however the lock is still closed to navigation industry.
- MVN H&H began collecting High Water Marks (Lafayette, Vermillion, St. James and St. John the Baptist Parishes)

FUTURE OPS:

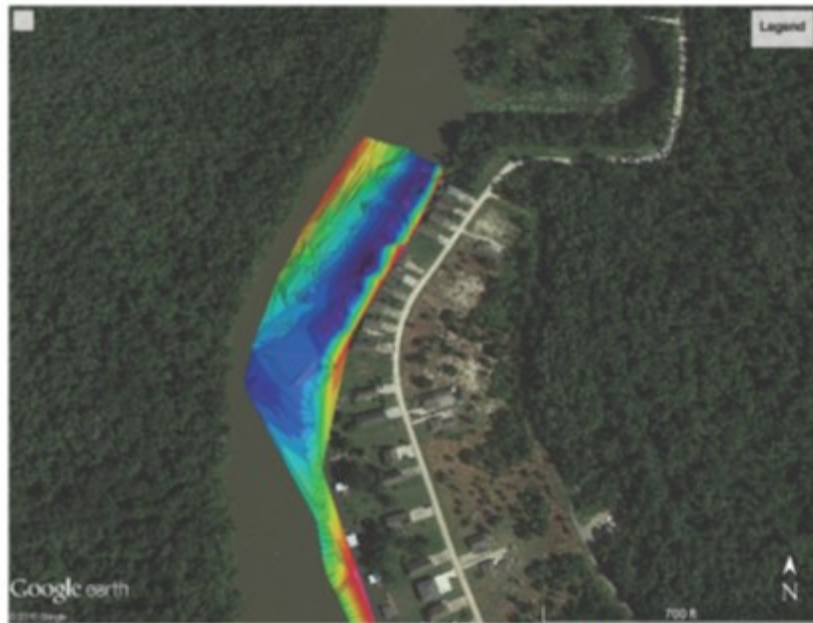
- GOSHEP scaled down to Level III operations.
- Continue to coordinate inundation mapping with MMC to provide to the State.
- Monitor conditions at Bayou Sorrel and Port Allen Locks for possible opening.
- Continue technical assistance mission with State and Local Governments.

STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENTS:

- MVN continues to be engaged at the state level when requested.
- MVN discontinued participation in the 1300 Parish update calls with GOSHEP on 22 Aug.

MVN: 2016 August Severe Weather Event

24 August 2016

**SITUATION:** August Severe Weather Southern LA

MVN was requested to provide technical assistance on a bank failure on the Amite River. Upon initial inspection, our engineering team required hydrographic surveys to provide a full assessment of the situation. The Amite River was shut down to boat traffic to prevent any further damage to the bank line from the wake of boats.

MVN offered to use the Z-boat as a quick alternative method to a full sized vessel. The Z-boat was deployed within 2 hours of notice and began taking critical surveys. The size of the boat was invaluable in getting survey shots near the bank without causing further damage. The shallow draft of the Z-Boat also allowed MVN to get surveys over obvious obstructions like fallen boat sheds and sunken vessels.

Top Left Picture: Surface profile in the Amite River near bank failures.

Bottom Left Picture: Z-Boat at work near bank failure.

